

The Citizen

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Broadening the school experience

PHS students host their German counterparts during a school outreach program.

Baskets, bunnies and eggs, oh my!

Want to know where to find all those cute German Easter decorations? Read this.

9
12

‘No limits’



Linda Steil

Sara Bennetts, playing for the USAG Stuttgart ASAP team, prepares to return the ball while teammates Alexis Kelley (from left) and Christopher Thomas ‘stand’ ready to assist during a seated volleyball game against a Warrior Transition Unit team Feb. 28 in the Patch Fitness Center. Five teams participated in the seated volleyball and wheelchair basketball tournament held to spotlight the benefits of adaptive sports and that the only limits anyone has are the limits that they set themselves.



Linda Steil

The Warrior Transition Unit composite team (in blue) battles against a team representing the Special Operations Command in a game of wheelchair basketball Feb. 28 during an adaptive sports tournament sponsored by the Warrior Transition Battalion-Europe.

USAG Stuttgart unveils renovated barracks

By S.J. Grady

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Home alone. It’s not just a movie. It’s how some unaccompanied, enlisted service members are now living, thanks to a newly renovated barracks that puts an end to roommates, shared living spaces and gang latrines.

Instead, this barracks offers occupants the ultimate in privacy; each resident will have his or her own room with kitchenette and bathroom.

Building 2902 on Panzer Kaserne opened its doors to Marines and Soldiers March 10. The \$5.7 million project includes three renovated floors with 29 rooms for Marines assigned to Marine Forces Europe and Africa, and 15 rooms for Soldiers assigned to the Stuttgart Dental Clinic and the Stuttgart Veterinary Clinic.

“These are probably the best individual rooms I’ve ever come across — the square footage, the individual conveniences, the Wi-Fi and cable — they’re very nice,” said Sgt. Maj. James McCook, the senior enlisted advisor for MARFOREUR/AF, who added that he has seen a lot of barracks in his 29 years as a Marine.

Lance Cpl. Kevin Zastrow, an administrative specialist with MARFOREUR/AF, has not. This is the first duty station for the Oconomowoc, Wis. native. Zastrow spent the first eight months of his tour sharing a room and bathroom with a roommate on Patch Barracks. “It was better than what I’ve had in the past,” he said, referring to the three-man rooms and open bays he occupied during boot camp and subsequent occupational specialty training.

He moved in to the renovated barracks March 12. “It is nice to have a space that is yours,” he said. “We have these walk-in closets that look amazing. It’s the biggest closet I’ve ever had.”

They are a luxury, especially for Germany. “We haven’t had any closets in any barracks until this point,” said Adriana Di Rocco, a housing specialist with the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Unaccompanied Housing Office.

The rooms also come with a kitchenette that is furnished with a sink, two burner cook top, microwave oven and cabinets. The bathroom features a half-tub with shower, mirrored medicine cabinet, sink and toilet.

See Renovated barracks on page 4



Marine Staff Sgt. Shane Mellor

Command Sgt. Maj. Bernard Smalls, Col. Greg Douquet, Spc. Hector Velasquez, Col. Michael Craddock, Col. John P. Stack, Cpl. Michael Mata, Sgt. Maj. James McCook and Ismail Engin, the renovation project manager, prepare to cut the ribbon to officially open Building 2902 March 10.



Daylight saving time begins

Most of Europe will move its clocks forward by one hour when daylight saving time begins on Sunday, March 30. In Germany, daylight saving time begins at 2 a.m. (set clocks to 3 a.m.).

THE CITIZEN

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Distracted driving: It can happen to you

Commentary by Senior Airman Alexis Siekert
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

We all think, “That’ll never happen to me.”

We’ve all read the statistics and heard the slogan, “Distracted driving is deadly driving” on the American Forces Network.

But be honest, are you always as attentive as you should be?

I’ll admit it here, now, that I’m not.

Yes, I’ve taken my eyes off the road to change the radio station, check my hair in the mirror or rummage around my purse for my lip balm. And one of those very same everyday actions in the wrong moment changed my perspective on how I operate my vehicle.

On this particular morning, it all started with the simple act of locating my ID card.

Twenty seconds later, my car was on an entirely different road after flipping twice over a barrier.

The fact that I can type these words now is a miracle that is not lost on me. My car was totaled. The caved-in roof was only part of the damage, yet I was able to walk away.

On the morning of my crash, I had plenty of time to get to work. I wasn’t speeding, and my mind wasn’t on anything other than the drive. As I got closer to the gate, I grabbed my wallet out of my pocket to get my ID. In the moment it took me to look down to make sure I had the right card, I veered off the road.

My tires screeched as I slammed on the brakes trying to correct my direction. I was traveling more than 40 mph when I narrowly missed oncoming traffic, took out a deer-crossing sign and two road markers before falling into the ditch. I don’t remember the first turn, but I knew I was upside down the second time when I could feel my weight being fully supported by my seatbelt. You could hear the shattering of my windows and metal on concrete just before I finally came to a stop.

I was very fortunate to walk away without a scratch, bump or bruise. I attribute most of this to German engineering, my seatbelt and a lot of luck. But I’m very aware that those three factors didn’t

cancel out the fact that what I did was wrong. I could have killed myself or someone else.

Now a week later, I am still trying to wrap my head around those few seconds before my crash. But beyond the shattered glass and the sirens of the police and ambulatory services, I knew that I had to change the way I measured risks because I can’t count on being this lucky a second time.

I owed it to myself after the crash to write this story — not as a public affairs Airman merely meeting a weekly quota or as a recent survivor of an accident such as this doing community service awareness — but as a simple word of advice to my fellow Airmen.

This isn’t a preachy “Don’t do this” message; just a hope that no one reading this ever has to go through what I went through.

So, to help arm as many people as I can with a few tips so they don’t repeat my mistake, here is a list of suggestions to make your car ride a safer experience.

1. Have your needed ID card or relevant papers out of your pocket and easily accessible before you start your vehicle. I’ve seen people struggle to fish out items from their back pocket while still operating a vehicle at top speeds. Some may even have to unbuckle their seatbelt to get something, whereas mine saved my life.

2. Have a passenger change the radio or get the IDs from other passengers in the car. In my car, the guy riding shotgun is the navigator and copilot who deals with the GPS and changes the songs — so long as they agree to the stations I want to listen to.

3. I may not have been on the phone, but I think of how it only took one second of my eyes off the road to cause all this damage; accepting a phone call or reading a text could be just as dangerous.

4. If you forgot to do all of these things, at least wait until you are stopped before performing anything distracting. If you do get an important phone call or have to find something, just pull over.

Whatever it is, it is not worth your life. These tips seem very basic, but still I took a risk in skipping one or two, and part of my morning routine included a visit to a hospital.

Perhaps you’re like me and hadn’t fully thought about these potential risks, but I hope none of you repeat my mistake.



*World-renowned marriage therapist and best-selling author Hal Runkel addresses couples from the Stuttgart military community during a *ScreamFree* workshop on Patch Barracks. The workshop was part of a series of *ScreamFree* events coordinated by U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Family Advocacy Program.*

World renowned author and marriage therapist offers 'ScreamFree' workshops in Stuttgart

Story & photo by Greg Jones
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

World-renowned marriage therapist and best-selling author, Hal Runkel, held "scream free" workshops March 4 and 6 at Patch Barracks for Stuttgart couples wishing to improve their relationships and build on parenting skills.

The March 4 workshop focused on parenting skills while the March 6 workshop focused on how couples can communicate better without screaming.

The two-hour workshops, sponsored by the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's Family Advocacy Program, presented the core of Runkel's trademarked "ScreamFree" approach to marital conflict and parenting.

The first and most important principle of Runkel's approach, to which he repeatedly referred throughout the seminar, is "calm down, grow up and get closer." This core principle of Runkel's technique seemed to be the biggest take-away for some attendees.

"It helped us to learn to take a deep breath and not be reactionary, and present yourself in an appropriate manner," said Dale Burkard, who attended with his wife Jurang. "Things just escalate if you don't do that; if you are reactionary."

Techniques like this, and the other five core principles of Runkel's program were introduced in these seminars, which go hand in hand with Runkel's book, "Scream Free Marriage: Calming Down, Growing Up, and Getting Closer."

While the ScreamFree marriage program is targeted at all couples wanting to improve their relationships, it is of particular value to military

couples who endure stresses on their family lives not experienced by most couples, according to Runkel.

"The Army has been very forward thinking in how it helps families deal with multiple deployments, although sometimes it feels like we are throwing pebbles into tidal waves," Runkel said. "What is being asked of families is incredible. So the idea that folks can come out to an event, see the commander and his wife sitting in the front row, kind of gives them this sense that it's OK to struggle with the most important relationship in their lives."

The basic idea of the ScreamFree approach, according to Runkel's book, is "learning to relate with others in a calm, cool and connected way, taking hold of your own emotional responses no matter how anyone else chooses to behave; learning to focus on yourself and take care of yourself for the world's benefit."

In addition to the ScreamFree seminars, the Family Advocacy Program also held two train-the-trainer events to certify new parent/marriage facilitators in the Stuttgart military community.

Participants representing FAP, Behavioral Health, the Religious Support Office, Child Youth and School Services, New Parent Support Program, Army Community Service, Exceptional Family Member Program and several Military Family Life Counselors attended. Both classes had 18 and 17 participants daily over the four-day period.

For more information on upcoming related Family Advocacy Program events, including Stress Management and Managing Emotions, call 431-3362/civ. 07031-15-3362.

For more information about the ScreamFree approach, visit www.screamfree.com

News & Notes

Local women to be honored at leadership forum

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Special Emphasis Program committee will host the fifth annual Women's Leadership Forum March 27 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks.

During the forum, five local women in federal service who exemplify leadership will be honored. They are:

- Vivian Turnbull, U.S. Africa Command, Legacy Leadership Award;
- Kelly Sarles, USAG Stuttgart Family and MWR, Leadership Achievement Award;
- Sgt. 1st Class April Smith, Defense Information Systems Agency Europe; Leadership Achievement Award;
- Jennifer Smith USAG Stuttgart Family and MWR, Emerging Leader Award; and
- Spc. Patricia Hanson, U.S. Army Medical Command, Emerging Leader Award.

Forum workshops will cover leadership skills, professional and personal development, strategic career planning and more.

Advanced registration for the free leadership forum closes March 21 because of limited seating.

Visit <http://stuttgartwlf.eventbrite.com> to register. For more information regarding this event, send an email to the forum organizer at Stuttgart_wlf@yahoo.com.

Army CID warns of imposter Army benefits website

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is warning Army personnel about an "imposter" site claimed to be an official U.S. Army benefits page in order to steal official Army Knowledge Online email addresses and passwords.

The site, using the address usmilitarybenefit.org, is not an official site.

The Army's authorized benefit site is at <http://myarmybenefits.us.army.mil>. Note there are no spelling errors and it is a ".mil" address.

Those who accessed the false site should contact their local Information Assurance office for guidance.

Turkey requires e-visa

If you are planning a vacation to Turkey, be advised that on April 10 a new visa system will be implemented.

Visitors must obtain an e-Visa before arriving in Turkey. The e-Visa replaces sticker and stamp-type visas formerly issued at the border crossing.

Applicants obtain their visa electronically after entering required information and making payment by credit card.

After a successful application, the e-Visa is e-mailed to the applicant. Applicants must print out the e-Visa, show it to airport officials and customs officers, and carry it with them at all times during the travel.

Note: this process is for tourism and trade. For other purposes such as work or study, visa application must be submitted through a Turkish embassy or consulate.

For more information, visit the Republic of Turkey's Electronic Visa Application System website at <https://www.evisa.gov.tr/en/>.

On the Blotter

March 3

A civilian employee was arrested by German police outside a nightclub in Stuttgart after he became disruptive and punched a bouncer.

March 4

- A family member reported that someone used her debit card and personal information to purchase \$35 of goods.

- A service member reported that someone stole a bag containing his military ID, passport, and other military gear from his car.

March 6

- An investigation revealed that a family member shopping at the Exchange on Panzer Kaserne opened a package, removed the vibrating ring inside, hid the packaging, and left the store without paying for the vibrating ring. Her privileges have been suspended.

- A family member was apprehended after she was observed shoplifting at the Shopette on Patch Barracks. Her privileges have been suspended.

- A family member was apprehended after she stole cosmetics from the Exchange on Panzer Kaserne. Her shopping privileges have been suspended.

March 7

- Military Police responded to a domestic assault on Robinson Barracks after a neighbor heard fighting noises. The investigation revealed multiple domestic assaults in the presence of the couple's daughter.

- Military Police observed a car on Panzer Kaserne with expired U.S. Army Europe license plates. MPs removed the license plates, attempted to reach the owner, and have impounded the car.

March 8

The parking brake failed on a government vehicle, causing it to roll downhill and strike a building on Patch Barracks.

March 9

A service member was apprehended by German police after getting into a fight in Stuttgart.

March 10

A drunken service member was arrested downtown after getting into a fight with a local national.

March 12

A family member was caught shoplifting cosmetics from the Exchange on Panzer Kaserne.

On the Blotter is compiled by the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Directorate of Emergency Services and Stuttgart Law Center.

Renovated barracks

Continued from page 1

The rooms are Wi-Fi and cable ready. "We put modems in every room, but the service members will have to go to TKS for the service," Di Rocco said.

Di Rocco also said the rooms come complete with new furnishings: a couch or armchair (depending on the size of the room), coffee table, desk and chair, entertainment unit, bed, nightstand, coat racks, curtains and carpeting. A six-drawer chest is installed in each closet.

Each floor has a laundry room with two washers and dryers, and a janitorial room with large sinks. In the basement, which was partially renovated, each military unit has storage space for the residents.

There is even an elevator.

The extensive renovations were completed in 12 months and included new electrical, heating,

plumbing, fire alarm and fire suppression systems, according to Ismail Engin, an engineer with USAG Stuttgart's Directorate of Public Works who oversaw the project.

USAG Stuttgart is working to modernize several more barracks to the same standards as Building 2902.

Building 2900 on Panzer Kaserne houses MARFOREUR/AF administrative offices. However, the fourth floor is barracks space. That floor is under renovation and should be completed in July.

Building 2309 on Patch Barracks is currently undergoing renovations and should be completed by October.

Building 3310 on Kelley Barracks is next on the list. The project is in the design phase, with construction set to begin in the fall of this year. Service members living in this barracks will soon relocate to Building 2311 on Patch Barracks while the building undergoes modernization.



S. J. Grady

Adriana Di Rocco, a housing specialist with the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Unaccompanied Housing Office, discusses the paperwork that Sgt. Brandon Foley must sign before moving into his new room.



S. J. Grady

While the façade has not changed, recently renovated Building 2902 on Panzer Kaserne, home to Marines assigned to MARFOREUR/AF and Soldiers assigned to the Stuttgart dental and veterinary clinics, now offers its occupants the ultimate in privacy; each resident will have his or her private room with kitchenette, bathroom and walk-in closet.



Let the giving begin

Stuttgart military community leaders gather March 5 at the Patch Community Club for a joint services aid society fundraising campaign kickoff. Sharing in the cake cutting duties are Senior Master Sgt. Marcus Moore, DISA Africa operations supervisor (from left); Col. Steve Ritter, EUCOM J5/8 division chief; Command Sgt. Maj. Bernard Smalls, USAG Stuttgart senior enlisted advisor; Col. John P. Stack, USAG Stuttgart commander; Col. Greg Douquet, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe chief of staff; and Master Chief Rick O'Rawe, DISA Europe senior enlisted advisor. The aid societies are private, non-profit organizations that provide financial assistance to their respective service members and their families. In the case of the Army, the annual Army Emergency Relief campaign runs through May 15. To learn how to donate to any of these aid societies, call the USAG Stuttgart AER Officer at 431-3352/civ. 07031-15-3352.

S. J. Grady

Housing office hours to change March 31

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Housing Office will have new business hours effective March 31. The office will be open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The office is closed on German and U.S. federal holidays.

Get ready for school registration

Stuttgart Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe will hold registration for the 2014-2015 school year at the Panzer Exchange April 22-24.

Parents and sponsors can register students on April 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the last packet to be handed out at 4:30 p.m. On April 23-24, registration is from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The last packet will be given out at 3 p.m.

To register their children, sponsors should bring copies of orders (and extensions to orders, if applicable), birth certificates, updated emergency contact information and immunization records.

To help school officials determine the school zone, sponsors should also bring the physical address of their residence, housing contract or the assignment to housing letter, and bus registration, if applicable.

For more information, contact the School Liaison Office at 430-7465/civ. 0711-680-7465.

Join the retiree council

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Retiree Council will hold its quarterly meeting for military retirees March 27 at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall located in the lower level of Panzer Chapel, Building

2940.

For more information on the council, call civ. 0711-680-2509 or 0711-729-5506.

The Stuttgart Retiree Support Center is located in Room 307, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

AWAG conference in Garmisch

Americans Working Around the Globe will host its 58th annual training and leadership conference May 4-8 at the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch. Topics to be covered include leadership development, private organizations and personal development. Reservations are still being accepted.

For more information, visit www.awagonline.org or contact Catherine Carson at Schwabens@awagonline.org to apply for sponsorship by the Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club.

Apply for AVID now

Advancement Via Individual Determination applications for the next school year (2014-2015) may be picked up from the Patch High School front office.

AVID is a college preparatory academic elective for above-average students who are not working to their full potential.

To qualify for AVID, a student must have a grade point average of 2.0-3.5; above average standardized test scores; a completed interview; a signed contract committing to preparation for college; teacher recommendations, and plans to take honors/advanced placement courses.

For more information, call the AVID coordinator at 430-7191/civ. 0711-680-7191 after 3 p.m.

Due to PCS soon?

For those who plan to relocate to a new duty station in the next

several months, permanent change of station/preseparation briefings are scheduled for April 2 and 16, May 7 and 21, June 18 and July 16 at 1 p.m. in Building 2913 on Panzer Kaserne.

All service members and civilians departing within the next four to five months should attend. Information will be provided from agencies such as transportation, customs, health and dental clinic, Tricare, vehicle registration, housing and Army Community Service. Army

personnel will also receive a briefing on finance issues.

All separating Army personnel must attend this briefing to receive preseparation information. Advance registration is required.

For more information and to sign up, call 431-2599/civ. 07031-15-2599.

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When packing out, pay close attention to the inventory. If you find there are notations that you don't agree with, write on the inventory list that you disagree.

Arm yourself for a claim-free PCS move

By Capt. Austen A. Swaim (U.S. Army)
Stuttgart Law Center

Moving to a new duty station can be exciting, challenging and stressful, especially when it comes to the pack-out.

Did you know you can safeguard against claims issues before your household goods are even picked up?

Indeed, one of the best ways to ensure you don't run into claims trouble at your next duty station is to start thinking smart about packing up your household goods right now. The following is a list of pro-active steps to make your move just a little more hassle-free:

- Always save receipts for high-value items, items that cannot be easily replaced or items you think are prone to being damaged. If you must file a claim for these items, a carrier or military claims office may ask you to prove how much you paid for the items. A receipt or billing statement is a great way to do prove value.

- Photograph or video-record your household goods on the day of shipment. Turn all of your electronic equipment on to demonstrate it works properly. Make sure such visuals are date-stamped or place a newspaper (with date, of course) in front of the camera so there is no question as to when these images were taken. That way, if a transportation service provider argues the claimed item had pre-existing damage, you can pull out your time-stamped visuals and prove them wrong.

- On a similar note, watch the packers to ensure the "exceptions" they write are accurate. These exceptions are notations for pre-existing damage or other negative notations about a household good item that negatively affects its value in the event of a claim.

- Have someone walk around with the mover who is writing down the inventory, and keep a close eye. Sometimes packers write exceptions for everything under the sun hoping to stop you from making a claim later. If you disagree with an exception, you can write that you disagree. Remember: Your signature at the bottom of the inventory means you agree that everything on the inventory is accurate, even the exceptions written by the movers.

- Take a pro-active role in packing, and if the packers are doing an inadequate job, call them on it. Although it is their job to pack, a claim down the road is not a hassle the movers deal with, but one that you must confront. You can show the movers how you want something packed, but do not pack it yourself. If the packed items are damaged, movers may argue that you improperly packed the items. Also make sure they do not mark "packed by owner" on your inventory.

- Finally, and this applies to the move-out and delivery, if the shippers did a poor job, don't rate them as excellent. Statistically speaking, your movers are likely doing an average job.

Change can only happen when people speak up. If the movers break all of your things and you still give them a good rating, you're not doing yourself or anyone any favors.

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SCSC hosts 'Crystal Bling-o' April 22

The Stuttgart Community Spouses Club will host an evening of bingo with crystal as prizes April 22 at 5 p.m. at the Patch Community Club.

Cocktail attire is recommended, and reservations are required.

For more information visit <http://stuttgartspousesclub.org> or contact Katie Whitehurst at scsc.specialevent@gmail.com.

Need EAP help?

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Employee Assistance Program assists supervisors, managers and their employees with problems that may affect work performance, conduct, attendance, the work environment and/or quality of life.

The EAP coordinator can provide free and confidential short-term counseling, community referrals, coordination with alcohol/drug treatment, management consultations and training.

For more information, call the EAP Coordinator at 431-2530/07031-15-2530.

Learn more about Red Cross March 22

March is American Red Cross Month. Learn more about the local American Red Cross on March 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Exchange atrium on Panzer Kaserne. Meet the volunteer staff and learn about upcoming classes, the health and safety program, and open volunteer positions.

For more information, stop by the

American Red Cross Stuttgart Station, Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne, or look for "American Red Cross Stuttgart Station" on Facebook.

Donations needed for Pfennig Bazaar

The German American Women's Club of Stuttgart is preparing for its 46th annual Pfennig Bazaar flea market to be held in November in downtown Stuttgart.

The bazaar is the club's main fundraising activity. For the last several years, an average of €50,000 per year has been donated to German and American charitable causes, including local schools, athletic groups and youth clubs.

The organization is accepting donations of gently used, clean items (no 110-volt appliances or military-related items). Donations may be dropped off at any time at collection bins located at the sorting room on Patch Barracks (next door to the Patch Thrift Shop in Building 2332) and on Kelley Barracks in Bay 3, next to the Kelley Theater.

For more information, visit www.gawc-stuttgart.org.

Speak with Vietnam vets March 29

The Vietnam War spanned 10 years and cost the U.S. the lives of more than 58,000 young men and women. To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War a display will be set up in the Exchange shopping center on Panzer Kaserne March 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Veterans of the Vietnam War will be present to discuss their service and

the history of U.S. involvement in the war.

The display is a partnership between U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart, the Association of the United States Army Stuttgart Chapter and Veterans of Foreign Wars Stuttgart Post 10810.

Spring Fling Run

The 2014 Spring Fling 5K fun run, hosted by Family and MWR Sports and Fitness, will be held March 29 from 10 a.m. to noon on Husky Field, Patch Barracks. Early registration closes March 25. The first 300 people to register will receive a free T-shirt. Bibs can be picked up on March 29 from 7:30-9:30 a.m. at the Patch Fitness Center.

For more information, call the Patch Fitness Center at 430-7136/civ. 0711-680-7136.

Need an advanced degree?

The Panzer Education Center will host a graduate program open house March 26 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Representatives from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the University of Maryland University College and the University of Oklahoma will be on hand to discuss their graduate and postgraduate degree programs.

The Panzer Education Center is located in Building 2915, Panzer Kaserne.

Phone number for appliance repair

If you have a government-issued appliance that becomes inoperable, call the service order help desk at

421-6200/civ. 0711-729-6200 to report the problem. A technician will be scheduled to come to your home (either on or off post) and get your appliance running again.

Take OHA survey by March 31

The annual Overseas Housing Allowance Utility Expenses Survey for Germany will be conducted through March 31.

The Defense Travel Management Office conducts the survey to identify how much service members spent in the previous year for electricity, heating fuel, water, trash removal and sewer fees. All service members, regardless of service affiliation, who reside in off-post housing are requested to complete the survey in order to accurately gauge the amount of OHA required. The survey is critical for ensuring OHA rates are properly set at overseas locations, and directly affects the amount of housing allowance each service member will receive.

Spouses are authorized to take the survey if their sponsor is deployed or unavailable.

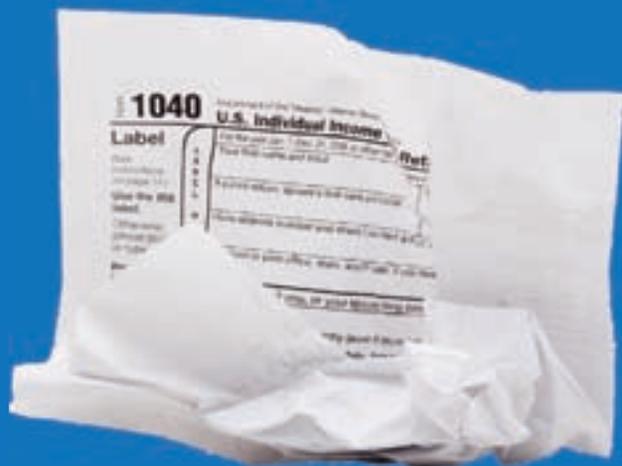
Those who take the survey are required to report the average monthly cost of utilities. To complete the OHA utilities expense survey, you should use actual bills or records of your utilities.

The survey can be accessed at www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/oha-util-mar.cfm.

Send your announcements to editorial@stuttgartcitizen.com.

The Stuttgart Tax Center offers free tax assistance

to service members, Defense Department civilian employees, military retirees and their family members



Open Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Closed on federal holidays

Room 231, Building 3312, Kelley Barracks

To make an appointment, call the Stuttgart Tax Center at 421-4588 or civ. 0711-729- 4588



Moles play a beneficial role in the environment

If you have soft volcanoes of dirt in your yard, chances are, you may have moles.

Moles are insectivores, not rodents. They have a preference for worms, grubs and other insects found underground. Moles do not eat flower bulbs or flowers.

Home gardeners and farmers often find moles to be a major nuisance because their excavations can expose shallow-rooted shrubs to drying and insects.

But in the long run, their digging is beneficial to a lawn. As moles dig, they aerate

the grass, allowing air and water into the soil. They also rid the lawn of harmful pests.

In Germany, moles are an endangered species, and hunting, hurting, trapping or killing them is prohibited. The only option is to chase them away with odor barriers, noise or vibrations.



USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division

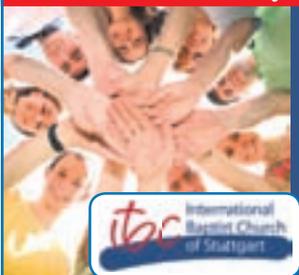
Bible Church of Stuttgart

Holding Forth the Word of Life Phil. 2:16



Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Fellowship Coffee 10:30 a.m. Thursday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Pastor Bob Matthews | cell: 0176-567-34427 | office: 0711-93388243
Schockenriedstrasse 42 | 70565 Vaihingen
www.bible-church-of-stuttgart.com

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Saturday - 1800 (starting 8 March 2014)
AWANA: Sunday 1700
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Wednesday 1900

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Wednesday: LifeGroup (informal setting)

Friday: Youth Meeting

*Please contact us for times and locations or visit our website



Pastors Alex & Evelyn Morales
Email: pastor@stuttgartchurch.com
Call us: 0152-5954-5304, 0152-3872-8324

WWW.STUTTGARTCHURCH.COM



Veterinary Technician Amy Hutchinson with the Stuttgart Veterinary Clinic discusses pet vaccinations with pet owners Sgt. Christopher and Letitia Baker who brought in their Shetland Sheep Dog, Bailey, for regular vaccinations. Vaccination records and other veterinary treatment records will be updated to a new online record system as part of an Army-wide move to the new system in April.

Greg Jones

Stuttgart Vet Clinic services limited during records system update, training

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Services at the Stuttgart Veterinary Clinic will be limited from March 31 to April 4 while the clinic updates to a new online veterinary record system and trains personnel on its use.

The clinic will maintain its regular opening hours, except that it will close from noon to 1 p.m. daily for lunch because of minimal staffing (the clinic is normally open through lunch).

During this period, patrons may also notice reduced appointments and longer waits.

For routine care patrons are advised to have their pets seen before this reduced service period, or wait until late April to early May, when the clinic expects to be back to normal operations, according to clinic office-in-charge Capt. Joseph Anderson.

The new system is called the Remote Online Veterinary Record, or ROVR for short. The system will offer Army veterinary service personnel worldwide new methods for recording and maintaining veterinary clinical information about the animals they treat. In the European theater, ROVR training and implementation is scheduled between March 10 to May 19.

“ROVR is a secure, Web-based application that provides the means to electronically record, store, retrieve and transmit the elements

of veterinary clinical encounters at all levels of care,” according to Col. Erik Topping, deputy commander for veterinary services at the US Army Public Health Command. “It is a state-of-the-art means to collect, manage, analyze and report data and information rapidly and accurately to all levels of the Department of Defense.”

ROVR will allow for standardization of prices and practices along with management level review capabilities for clinical and financial purposes. ROVR is an application that will support veterinary mission standardization across the military services.

ROVR will capture clinical veterinary encounters and provide for an accounting system of inventory and financial transactions. Future capabilities planned for ROVR include data collection, best practice and clinical outcome determinations, and disease surveillance.

One of the biggest benefits to pet owners is that the information stored in the system can be transferred to any military VTF around the world. This will make a difference for those who take pets with them when they have a permanent change of station.

Editor's note: This article includes contributions from Jane Gervasoni, U.S. Army Public Health Command Public Affairs Office.

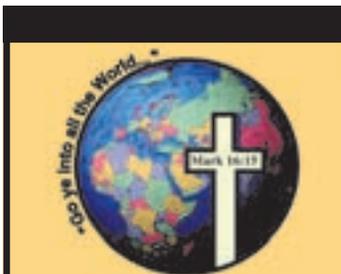


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German, U.S. students meet thanks to USO

Story & photos by Carola Meusel
USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Twenty-one eighth-grade German students from the Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium in Bad Cannstatt visited Patch High School as part of a school outreach program Feb. 25. The event, initiated by the United Service Organizations Stuttgart, aimed to bring German and American students together to learn about each other's culture, the differences between the two school systems and above all, to make friends, according to Luisa Abaygar, the USO's programs and volunteer coordinator and main organizer of the outreach.

"The USO is always trying to engage in programs that involve Germans since we wish to partner with the host nation," Abaygar said. "The Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium was open to the student exchange, and we're hoping to continue this partnership in the long run."

In advance of the students' visit, Martin Sauer, the assistant principal at Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium, visited the American students at PHS and discussed how the German school system works. Joe Holder, one of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's School Liaison Officers, did the same at the German school.

The exchange program started Feb. 18 when 17 PHS freshmen, sophomores and juniors spent a day at Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium to see what a German school is like.

When the German students came to PHS, they were welcomed by Holder, Daniel Coapstick, a German and math teacher at PHS, and USO's Abaygar before pairing up with their American counterparts to attend drama, science, computer animation and physical education classes.

While the students were in class, Holder took the two accompanying teachers on a tour of PHS.

According to Ruth Böhm-Martin, an English and geography teacher at Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium, most of the students didn't know that U.S. Forces are still stationed in Stuttgart and therefore were surprised and excited about visiting an American high school in Germany.

"German students are always interested in the U.S. Here [Stuttgart], they have 'little America' right in front of their door," Böhm-Martin said.

Besides the school, it's also interesting for them to learn about the U.S. military in Stuttgart, she added.

"This is an outstanding opportunity for our students to interact with native



Damir Ikie (from right), Luka Martinovic, and Ermin Aliti, all eighth-graders at Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium in Bad Cannstatt, have lunch at the food court on Patch Barracks Feb. 25 with PHS sophomore Elijah Philips. Some 21 German students visited PHS as part of a USO-organized school outreach program.

speakers, strengthen relationships and learn about each other's history," said Cornelia Schwarzkopf, an English teacher at the German school.

For lunch, most PHS students took their German buddies to the Patch Food Court for a "real" American experience. While Sehne Bakery, Subway and Burger King are well-known to most Germans and available on the economy, Taco Bell is not, and that's where most of the German students elected to dine.

Following lunch, all the students attended Daniel Coapstick's German language class, where they discussed stereotypes and cultural differences.

"Today is about German-American friendship and overcoming stereotypes. These exchange programs are beneficial for all students since it's a different approach to learning only from the books," Coapstick said. "For our students this also makes for a good opportunity to meet German children," he added.

Many of the German students said they felt as if they were in the U.S.

"The school looks exactly like in an American movie. The students and teachers are very nice and already friendly and familiar — I would like to go to school here," said Aria Emir, of Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium.

Classmate Alma Hasanbasic said she was impressed by the technical equipment such as smart boards, and the laptops that every student can sign

up for ... something that is not common in German schools.

For PHS 11th-grader Jonathan Brabazon, the exchange with the German school was an effective way to "put the German language to work."

Matthew Lore, also an 11th-grader at PHS, said he enjoyed the student exchange and was impressed by the English skills of the students.

"The program is a great way to converse with German students. These exchanges are important and fun. It's interesting to see how other people teach and to get a different experience," Lore said.

The school day concluded with a social at the PHS library hosted by the USO. Here, students enjoyed cupcakes, snacks and a magic show before departing Patch Barracks and saying "auf Wiedersehen," or goodbye, to one another.

According to the German and American teachers, the students truly enjoyed their day at PHS and many left as Facebook friends.

The next exchange event is planned for May during Stuttgart's American Days (May 14-25): a reunion of PHS and Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium students. The event will be held at the Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum/James-F.-Byrnes-Institut (DAZ) in Stuttgart and is open to all interested in German-American student outreach programs.



Alma Hasanbasic (from left) and Aria Emir, eighth graders at Johannes-Kepler-Gymnasium in Bad Cannstatt, along with Patch High School ninth-grader Sean Loeben, practice dribbling basketballs during physical education in the PHS gymnasium Feb. 25, as part of a school outreach program.

Students experience mobile tactical communications

Story & photos by Robert Watson
U.S. European Command C4 and
Cyber Operations

About 30 Patch High School students were introduced to U.S. military satellite and information technology equipment during a visit Feb. 28 by Airmen, Soldiers, and Sailors of the Joint Communications Support Element from Tampa, Fla.

The service members explained the basic functions of a variety of satellite and IT systems, demonstrated some of their capabilities and answered questions the students had about the equipment and how the military uses it.

The event, coordinated by U.S. European Command's C4 and Cyber Operations Directorate, offered the students an opportunity to learn about and experience some of the most high-tech communications, IT and satellite equipment available to the U.S. military, according to officials of the Mission Assurance Branch of EUCOM C4 and Cyber Operations.

The students received live demonstrations on satellite communications and IT networking capabilities that provide voice, data and video in deployed environments.

The event was sponsored by the PHS Science Technology Engineering and Math Council, and PHS teachers focused on the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math curriculum, in close cooperation with the school's cyber-STEM partners of EUCOM, Defense Information Systems Agency Europe and 5th Signal Brigade's 52nd Signal Battalion.

Brig. Gen. Bruce Crawford, director of the EUCOM C4 and Cyber Operations Directorate, offered the partnership to Department of Defense Dependents School educators and students in a previous meeting in December 2013 after a "STEMposium."

PHS students have since elected a STEM council coordinator, student Connor McNeely, after a cross-organizational brainstorming session in January 2014.

"I'm very happy that we've come this far with our STEM programs here at Patch High School. The dedication and commitment of our staff and students will continue to set the precedence of where we will go in the future with our STEM program," said Stephanie Payne, a Patch High School teacher and coordinator for the STEM program.

The seminars will continue for the rest of the school year, providing a foundation for the cyber-STEM partnership for next year. In March, the seminar will be medically oriented, with the focus on joint replacements being performed at the Sindelfingen hospital.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Chad Welch of the Joint Communications Support Element from Tampa, Fla., describes the capabilities and characteristics of the HMWV vehicle to students from Patch High School Feb. 28 during a partnership learning event that was coordinated by EUCOM's C4 and Cyber Operations Directorate.



Air Force Tech Sgt. Camilo D'Sa of the Joint Communications Support Element from Tampa, Fla., demonstrates mobile networks capabilities to Patch High School students during a cyber-STEM partnership learning event.



Staff Sgt. Robert McClure of the Joint Communications Support Element from Tampa, Fla., explains to PHS students the basic functions and capabilities of modern military satellite and IT equipment that provide voice, data and video in deployed environments.

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EASTER MARKETS



It's time for spring and Easter markets in Germany. The markets typically run from mid-March until the end of April. Here's a small selection, but for more markets, visit the Stuttgart Citizen culture calendar at www.stuttgartcitizen.net.

March 22-23: Schwetzingen International Easter Market

The Schwetzingen International Easter Market will celebrate its 30th anniversary this year. More than 50 artists from Switzerland, Hungary, the Netherlands, Austria, France, Russia and Germany will display their artfully designed Easter eggs. The market will be held at the Schwetzingen Castle (Schloss Schwetzingen, nördlicher Zirkel, 68723 Schwetzingen). The market is open March 22 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and March 23 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets cost between €4 and €6. For more information, visit www.ostereiermarkt.com.

March 23: Ludwigsburg "Märzklopfen" Spring Event

Ludwigsburg will host the "Märzklopfen" spring event with Sunday shopping, a flea market and fabrics from the Netherlands. The flea market will be held all throughout Ludwigsburg's downtown area while the fabric market will be held at "Rathaushof." The markets will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. All stores will be open from 1-6 p.m. Free child care will be available at "Luki-Club" from 1-6 p.m. at Marktplatz 13. The "Blühende Barock"

garden and park area at the Ludwigsburg Castle will also open its doors to the public after its winter break. For more information, visit www.ludwigsburg.de

March 29-30: Fellbach International Easter Egg and Arts and Crafts Market

Fellbach will host its international "Ostereierbörse," or Easter egg market, at the Schwabenlandhalle event center (Tainerstrasse 7, 70734 Fellbach). More than 180 vendors will offer arts and crafts, ceramics, books, interior decorations, jewelry, paintings, baked goods and more. The market includes a petting zoo with rabbits, hens and chickens. Child care is also available. The market is open March 29 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and March 30 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets cost €4. For more information, visit www.freizeit-kunstmaerkte.de.

April 4-21: Nürnberg Easter Market

Nürnberg will host its annual "Häferlesmarkt," or Easter market, at the "Hauptmarkt" market square. More than 80 booths will offer arts and crafts, ceramics, books, interior decorations and more. The market is open Monday through Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday and Easter Monday (April 21) from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The market will be closed Good Friday (April 18.) For more information, visit www.nuernberg.de.

April 5-6: Esslingen Spring and Garden Market

Esslingen will celebrate the awakening of spring with the "Esslinger Frühling and Gartentage," or spring and garden market, in the historic downtown area. The market will be open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on both days. More than 100 exhibitors will present interior decorations, flowers, gardening tips, sculptures, art and ceramics as well as antiques during the two-day event. A garden flea market will also be

offered at "Blarerplatz." All stores will be open April 6 from 1-6 p.m.

For more information, visit www.es-maerkte.de.

April 13: Dettingen Spring Awakening

Dettingen will host its "Frühlingserwachen," or awakening of spring festival, at the market square and throughout the downtown area. The spring market will feature flowers, plants and gardening utensils. The event will also offer regional food and beverages, music and family entertainment. The market is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. All stores will be open from noon to 5 p.m.

April 13: Waldenbuch Easter Market

Waldenbuch will host its traditional Easter market to ring in spring and Easter festivities. The market is located at the Waldenbuch Castle (Museum der Alltagskultur) and features a variety of Easter and spring-inspired decorations and presents such as hand-painted eggs, herbal lotions and soaps, jewelry and paintings. Booths in the courtyard of the castle and throughout Waldenbuch's downtown area offer food, chocolates and baked goods. The market is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. All stores in downtown Waldenbuch will be open from 1-6 p.m. Tickets to the Easter market at the Waldenbuch Castle museum cost €3. The castle is located at Schloss Waldenbuch, 71111 Waldenbuch.

For more information, visit www.museum-der-alltagskultur.de.

April 19-27: Burg Hohenzollern Spring Awakening

The Hohenzollern Fortress will transform into a colorful flower garden during this annual event. Regional florists offer Easter wreaths, nests and bouquets. The spring event is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tickets cost between €5-10. Burg Hohenzollern is located at 72379 Burg Hohenzollern.

For more information, visit www.burg-hohenzollern.com.

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Carola Meusel

Easter markets throughout Germany offer hand-painted Easter eggs, flowers, plants and many colorful interior decorations to ring in spring.

What's happening in FMWR

Golf course holds membership drive

The Stuttgart Golf Course will host its annual green fees membership drive March 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Patrons can enter to win one of two single memberships. Refreshments will be served.

The golf course is located at Aldinger Strasse 975, 70806, Kornwestheim.

For more information, call civ. 07141-87-9150.

Pasta, Prima Donnas at RB Club March 28

Enjoy a free ladies night with a potluck and a movie March 28 from 6-9 p.m. at the Robinson Barracks Club, Building 168.

Participants are asked to bring an Italian dish that serves six to eight people. The bar will be open to purchase beverages to accompany dinner.

"Under the Tuscan Sun" (PG-13) will be shown following the potluck.

Sign up in advance by March 25 at Brewed Awakenings. For more information, call 420-6037/civ. 0711-819-6037.

SKIES to offer 'Music Together'

Child, Youth and School Services will offer Music Together, an early childhood music program for children 6 weeks to 5 years old.

The Monday sessions begin April 7 from 10:30-11:15 a.m. at the Patch Hub, Building 2337. The Tuesday sessions begin April 15 and will be held from 5-5:45 p.m. in Building 3162 in the Panzer Housing area.

Parent participation is required.

For more information, call 430-6281/civ. 0711-680-6281.

Still time to go skiing

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Outdoor Recreation offers a ski and snowboard day trip to St. Anton, Austria, March 29. Equipment rental is available from Outdoor Recreation.

For more information, call 431-2774/civ. 07031-15-2774.

For more Family and MWR activities, visit their website at www.stuttgart.armymwr.com.



Coming to Patch Theater

Mar 20 — 300: Rise of an Empire (R) 6 p.m.

Mar 21 — Need for Speed (PG-13) 6 p.m., Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club (PG-13) 9 p.m.

Mar 22 — Mr. Peabody & Sherman (PG) 2:30 p.m., Need for Speed in 3D (PG-13) 5 p.m., Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club (PG-13) 8:30 p.m.

Mar 23 — Mr. Peabody & Sherman in 3D (PG) 2:30 p.m., Need for Speed in 3D (PG-13) 5:30 p.m., Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club (PG-13) 8:30 p.m.

Mar 24 — Need for Speed in 3D (PG-13) 6 p.m.

Mar 25 — Closed

Mar 26 — 300: Rise of an Empire (R) 6 p.m.

Mar 27 — Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club (PG-13) 6 p.m.

Mar 28 — Muppets Most Wanted (PG) 6 p.m., Divergent (PG-13) 9 p.m.

Mar 29 — Muppets Most Wanted (PG) 2:30 p.m., The Lego Movie (PG) 5:30 p.m., Divergent (PG-13) 8:30 p.m.

Mar 30 — Muppets Most Wanted

(PG) 2:30 p.m., The Lego Movie in 3D (PG) 5:30 p.m., Divergent (PG-13) 8:30 p.m.

Mar 31 — Divergent (PG-13) 6 p.m.

Apr 1 — Closed

Apr 2 — Muppets Most Wanted (PG) 6 p.m.

Apr 3 — Tyler Perry's Single Moms Club (PG-13) 6 p.m.



Summit Entertainment

In "Divergent," people are divided into distinct factions based on their personalities. Tris Prior is warned she is "divergent" and will never fit into any one group. When she discovers a conspiracy to destroy everyone like her, she must find out what makes being divergent so dangerous before it's too late.

Family and MWR Advertisement

stuttgart.armymwr.com



SPORTS & FITNESS

12th ANNUAL SPRING FLING 5K

Mar. 29 • 10 a.m.

Patch Fitness Center

First 300 registrants receive a t-shirt.

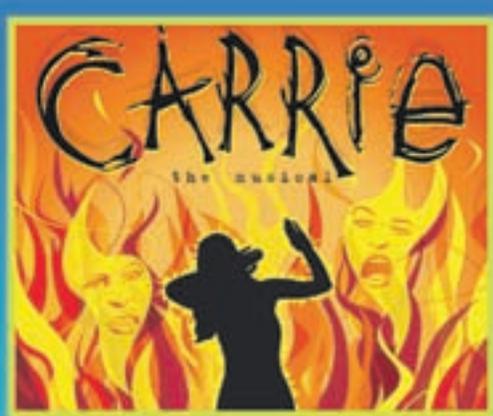
Registration fee is:

\$15 Individual & \$40 Family (Feb. 24 - Mar. 25)

Late registration fee is:

\$20 Individual & \$50 Family (Mar. 26 - 28 at 2 p.m.)

DSN 430-7136 /CIV 0711-680-7136



THEATER

CARRIE, THE MUSICAL

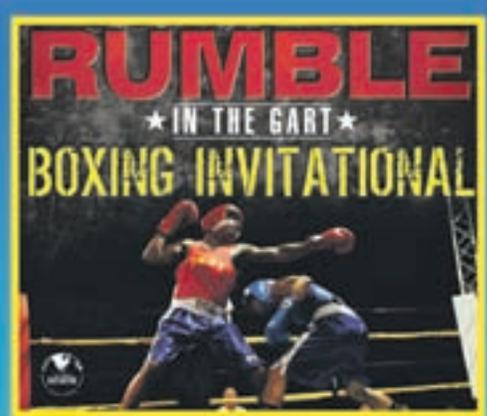
Apr. 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19 • 7:30 a.m.

Apr. 6, 13 • 3 p.m.

Stuttgart Theatre Center

Based on the novel by Stephen King, "Carrie, the Musical" focuses on the struggles of a high school misfit. This production is not camp or over the top horror, but a drama based on bullying and self-discovery (PG-13).

DSN 421-3055 /CIV 0711-729-3055



ENTERTAINMENT

RUMBLE IN THE GART

Apr. 5 • 7 p.m.

Patch Fitness Center

Join the USAG Stuttgart Community for a night to remember. Enjoy the boxing show while also having a chance to win amazing prizes which include a round trip flight to the US, a 47" TV, and more!

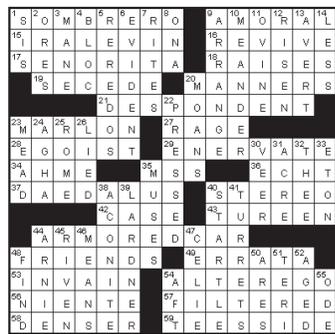
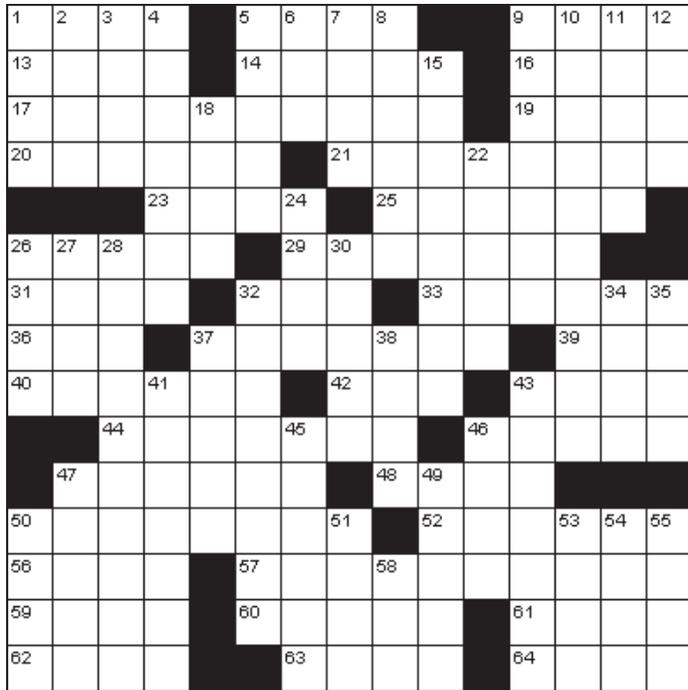
Regular tickets \$5.

Ringside table seats with dinner \$20.

DSN 430-7136 /CIV 0711-680-7136



Crossword Puzzle



This is the solution to the crossword puzzle from March 6, 2014!

Courtesy of thinks.com

ACROSS

- 1 Thaw
- 5 Mogul capital of India
- 9 Foot part
- 13 Drama award
- 14 Barely visible
- 16 "Doctor Zhivago" heroine
- 17 Sternum
- 19 Claim on property
- 20 Origin
- 21 Storms
- 23 Apparel
- 25 High point
- 26 Young hog
- 29 Permitted
- 31 Prunes
- 32 Elec. meas.
- 33 Save from disaster
- 36 Be in debt
- 37 Portuguese dictator
- 39 Timetable abbr.
- 40 Writing implement
- 42 "My Gal ____"
- 43 Spanish ayes?
- 44 Jazz band member
- 46 Province of SE China
- 47 Anew

48 Painter Schiele

- 50 Armories
- 52 Intertwine
- 56 Good farm soil
- 57 "Schindler's List" star
- 59 NYC art center
- 60 Musical based on a comic strip
- 61 Noted short-story writer
- 62 Brewery products
- 63 Grown-up elves
- 64 Tore

DOWN

- 1 Unruly crowds
- 2 Spain's longest river
- 3 In ____ of (replacing)
- 4 Crowd disperser
- 5 Following
- 6 Blah-blah-blah
- 7 Public ruckus
- 8 Temper, as steel
- 9 Claims
- 10 Created a disturbance
- 11 Island where Minos ruled
- 12 ____ Christian Andersen
- 15 Of this world
- 18 "Shool!"
- 22 Might
- 24 Cry loudly
- 26 Dinner from a bucket
- 27 Sewing machine inventor
- 28 Magical phrase
- 30 "The Forbidden City"
- 32 Finnish epic poem
- 34 Astronomical bear
- 35 Ireland, poetically
- 37 Important Phoenician city
- 38 Grey of westerns
- 41 Movie theaters
- 43 Overcast
- 45 City in NW Illinois
- 46 Put an edge on
- 47 Salivate
- 49 Hereditary factors
- 50 ____ mater
- 51 Compos mentis
- 53 "Pronto" in a memo
- 54 Furnace fuel
- 55 Author Bagnold
- 58 Fraction of an inch



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Have fun with the locals



Sparkasse

Mountain Bike Festival

Fri, Mar 28 – Sun, Mar 30

Stuttgart, Schleyer-Halle

If an adrenaline rush is what you need then come to the Sparkasse Mountain Bike Festival between the 28th and 30th of March in Stuttgart. Here you will see a spectacular events ranging from the bike expo to cross country racing. On the March 28 there is no cover charge. On March 29 and 30 ticket prices start at €19. For more information see www.sparkassen-mountainbike-festival.de

EVENTS

Blühendes Barock

Fri, Mar 21

Ludwigsburg, Blühendes Barock

On the 21st of March, the Barock in Ludwigsburg will be open 3 weeks before season opening for all visitors to see all the flowers blooming. You will be able to walk through the park and see various flowers as well as walk through the fairytale park. This event is perfect for the whole family. For more info see www.blueba.de (site in German).

ProWein

Sun, Mar 23 – Tue, Mar 25

Düsseldorf

For those who are wine lovers, you will not want to miss out on this event between the 23rd and 25th of March. There will be more than 4000 exhibitors from over 50 countries. You will be able to get to know the product as well as receive information about the wine. Tickets for one day are €45. For more information see www.prowein.com.

JazzArtFestival

Wed, Mar 26 – Sun, Mar 30

Schwäbisch Hall

If you are into Jazz music, then this event is for you. Come to the JazzArtFestival in Schwäbisch Hall between the 26th and 30th of March. You will be able to listen to various artists with a variety of music

on each day. For more information see www.jazzart-hall.de.

Techno Classica - vintage cars

Wed, Mar 26 – Sun, Mar 30

Essen, Messe Essen

The 26th Techno-Classica Essen will be displaying vintage cars between the 26th – 30th of March in the Messe Essen. More than 1250 exhibitors from over 30 nations will present the finest vehicles. For more information about this event see www.siha.de.

Veterama - classic bikes & cars

Fri, Mar 28 – Sun, Mar 30

Hockenheim, Hockenheimring

Between the 28th and 30th of March, Veterama will be displaying classic motorcycles and cars at the Hockenheim Ring. This event has been around since 1975. Veterama will have approx 2,500 exhibitors showing about 300 automobiles. The event starts at noon on Friday and will go until 8 p.m. Ticket price is €14. For more information please see www.veterama.de.

The First World War and the Senses

Thr, Apr 3

Stuttgart, House of History

If you love history and want to know more about the First World War, then come to Stuttgart's House of History on the 3rd of April. Here you will be able to see the effects of the war and be able to use your senses, i.e. hearing, smelling,

tasting etc. This exhibition is in German for more information see www.stuttgart-tourist.de

Wilhelma Zoo

Sun, Apr 6

Stuttgart, Wilhelma Zoo

Need something fun to do? Then come to the Wilhelma Zoo in Stuttgart on the 6th of April. Between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. you will be able to see all different types of amphibians. For more information about the zoo see www.wilhelma.de

CONCERTS

The Australian Pink Floyd Show

Sat, Mar 29

Freiburg, Rothaus Arena

Don't miss out on the Australian Pink Floyd Show in the SAP Arena in Mannheim on the 27th of March. This event will start at 8 p.m. This show is meant to be one of the most on demand shows on tour. Ticket prices start at €41.05. For more information see www.aussiefloyd.com

Deep Purple

Tue, Apr 1

Luxembourg, Rockhal

Come see Deep Purple on the 1st of April in Luxembourg who have sold over 100 millions albums worldwide. Some of their hits include 'Smoke On the Water' and

'Space Truckin'. If you are a true fan, this is a show you most definitely don't want to miss out on. Ticket prices start at €47. For more information see www.atelier.lu or www.eventim.de

Elton John

Sun, Nov 30

Stuttgart, Hanns-Martin-Schleyer-Halle

Hurry to get tickets soon to Elton John's concert on November 30 in Stuttgart. Elton will be sure to amaze the crowd with his many hits and fantastic show. Get tickets from €61.80 and more info at www.eventim.de.

SPORTS

Harlem Globetrotters

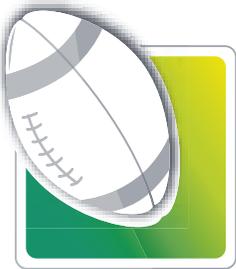
Thu, Mar 27

Ludwigsburg, MHP Arena

On the 27th of March, the Globetrotters will be playing at 7 p.m on the courts of the MHP Arena in Ludwigsburg. They have a new motto this year "You write the rules". You get to decide the new rules they add to the Globetrotters basketball. A rule that could affect the outcome of the game. This event will be fun filled and exciting. Don't miss out and get your tickets soon at www.eventbuero.com or call 0711-2082-495. Prices start at €23. For more information on the Globetrotters see www.harlemglobetrotters.com

More events on: www.militaryingermany.com

military
IN GERMANY



Youth Activities

Take a look at what's going on in Stuttgart's schools.



Photo by Amy Rush

Students at Patch Elementary School take the pledge to read 30 minutes every night during the month of March.

Dr. Seuss' Birthday

Robinson Barracks Elementary-Middle School celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday Monday, March 3rd with style. "The Cat in the Hat", played by Abbie Storey, read stories, posed for photos, and generally showed up everywhere during the event.

All photos by Mrs. Judi Hurston



1

Photo 1—Robinson Barracks assistant principal Tessa Moss-Beaman, principal Shelia Smith, and "Cat in the Hat" Abbie Storey perform the "Read Across America Rap" during morning announcements.

Photo 2—Robinson Barracks 4th grader Mychaella Cooper with "The Cat in the Hat" on Dr. Seuss' birthday.

Photo 3 and 4—Deputy Garrison Commander Kathleen Cole Shares her favorite Dr. Seuss story with Robinson Barracks kindergarten and pre-k students.

Photo 5—Robinson Barracks Principal Shelia Smith takes a break to talk story with the Cat in the Hat during the Dr. Seuss birthday festivities.

Photo 6—Robinson Barracks parent volunteers decorated the school lobby for Read Across America.



5



3



2



4



6



1



2

STEM projects

Robinson Barracks Elementary Middle School 3rd graders in Mrs. Judi Hurston's class work on their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) projects. The assignment was to construct mailboxes from recyclable materials.

Photo 1—Reese Tucker, Leilani Howland and their mailbox are all smiles for the camera.

Photo 2— Joshua Zipperer, Kaleb Denton and Malik Tolbert are proud of their work!

Photo 3—Eva Palitza, Kendall Boudreaux (pictured with moustache!) and Claire Jacobs show off their project.

Photo 4— Robinson Barracks 3rd graders Julian Wolfer (standing) and Benjamin Abad share their recycled mailbox in Mrs. Hurston's class.

All photos by Mrs. Judi Hurston



3



4

AVID family workshop

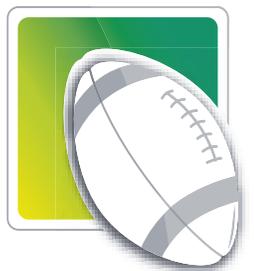
On February 13, 2014 the BEMS AVID team hosted a family workshop. Students presented AVID strategies, goals and activities to their parents through games, chants and questions. In this photo we see Kent Zelcs during a break with his younger brother Raimond on their way to the refreshments table.



Photo by Sarah Brown

Youth Activities

Take a look at what's going on in Stuttgart's schools.





Youth Activities

Take a look at what's going on in Stuttgart's schools.



Photo by Krista Nightwine

Chinese New Year

First grade students at BEMS recently learned about the Chinese New Year, and its moon phases in celebration of the Chinese New Year. In this photo we see Ms. Moore, a parent volunteer, lending a hand to Willo Spahr. Samya Pappas is already enjoying some delicious treats.



Photo by Ed Thornburg

LEGO Club

The BEMS LEGO Club is a PTA sponsored event where students' creativity and problem solving skills are fostered as they create Lego designs and explore basic robotic principles. Mr. Chris Mullitt, a parent volunteer, is assisting 1st grade students Leeia Mitchell and Christian Nobles.



Photo by Ed Thornburg

Green Eggs and Ham

Last week the students at BEMS were busy celebrating Read Across America. The first grade students read one of Dr. Seuss' best-selling and critically acclaimed children's book entitled "Green Eggs and Ham." In this photo we see Elijah Perry, Ms. Reams (a parent volunteer) and Kyler Davis enjoying greens eggs and ham.

8th Grade Orientation

The counselors and a student delegation from PHS recently visited BEMS to speak with the 8th grade students about their upcoming transition to the High School. In this photo we see Rubye Egly, a PHS sophomore conducting the briefing. The BEMS students in attendance are Mia Mifsud, Elizabeth Lee, Brandon Dotson, Logan Jordan and Alexandro Carbajal.



Photo by MarySupik

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All ads and pics on class-world.com

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Brand new town house in Echterdingen, 150sqm, 3 bdrm, 1 bthrm. Kitchen and light fixtures inkl. Close to Airport, Kelly and Patch. Dr. Zacher 01775932342, objekt@zacherhome.de

AUTOS

All ads and pics on class-world.com

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07 Volvo XC 70 AWD Cross Country, \$15,000. AWD, Automatic transmission w/manual shifting option, PWR heated leather seats, pwr locks, sunroof, entertainment pkg/w wireless headphones, towing pkg, park assist, 017661266595 Scott

2003 BMW X5, automatic, power windows and sunroof, BMW premium CD and stereo system. Blue exterior and black leather interior. Approximately 112K miles. A must see! GPS5981@YAHOO.COM

2006 Automatic Gray Acura TSX incl. both summer & winter tires & chains. 120,000 mi., leather seats, moonroof, power/heated seats, A/C, 6 disc CD changer, cruise control, nav system. Car has had 1 owner, non-smoker, no pets. Available early May Cathy 01622729213 \$9999

2008 BMW X3 3.0si, U.S. Spec, AWD, automatic transmission (Steptronic 6-Spd), 35,000 miles, dual power/heated leather seats, Xenon headlamps, power windows/locks, air conditioning, cruise control, and more! Dealer maintained (just completed 35K mile service). \$17,750 OBO. currierjh@hotmail.com

2009 Mustang GT Convertible, Ford, Mustang GT Convertible, 2009, 2009 Ford Mustang GT Convertible for sale. Automatic transmission, heated seats and remote starter. \$20,000, not available until May. 26peterc@gmail.com

For sale is an Automatic Mercedes E200, 1999. Gorgeous blue-green color. German specs, inspections passed. No problems! Good shape - inside and outside. It has 270,000 km. \$3700 cash please. We are in Wiesbaden. sergelana@gmail.com. Call 0176-69342-601 or 0176-69350-983.

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Mercedes converible for sale, Mercedes-Benz, clk 320 convertible, 2001, silver--loaded-one owner--mercedes maintained--gargae kept-- summer and winter tires with rims only 65k miles--call 07031-280681 or email fritz_32@hotmail.com, \$12500.00

Mercedes E 200, Model 2000 Automatic, leather, power steering, breaks, windows, doors. Cruise control, Xenon lights, ABS, Stero, fully loaded. new oil change & batterie. new winter tires. none smoking car - Garage kept- good condition - only € 3.250 obo call 0172-676 2717

Mercedes E320, '00, Automatic, 144000 km, with alloy wheels, leather interior, DVDs in headrests, extra-fully loaded, & perfect mechanically!!! Super nice car! \$8400 (or 6200 Euros) Wiesbaden, 0176-69350-983.

Porsche Cayenne Turbo year: 2009 KM: 150.000 Fully loaded, (leather seats, Panorama Roof, Rear Entertainment System, Price New: € 140.000,00 Sale Price: €31.500 Please call: 0172-6235076

Toyota reliability, great milage 2.2 D4D turbo diesel engine, 6 speed transmission, front wheel drive, spacious interior. Rear seats fold flat. 2 sets of tires/wheels Only 68000k. 9,900Euro Call 016091323360 email cdpklaus@gmail.com

MOTORCYCLES

All ads and pics on class-world.com

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2008 Yamaha R1, Other, Yamaha R1 YZF, 2008, Great condition and garage kept. Never raced or down. Only 3760 miles and I'll also throw in a Motostance automatic battery charger for Free! €5800.00, jasonkat78@yahoo.com

2009 Harley Low Rider 9500.00 OBO, Contractor relocating and looking to sale. Motorcycle is in excellent manufactured condition with very low miles, engine size 1584 CC with 6 gear shift. Seat height is approx. 25 inches. Contact Mike at cell 015237044957 or work 10AM-7PM 06117055301

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All ads and pics on class-world.com

Athletes Needed! Team Armed Forces Europe, Bodybuilding competition team seeking dedicated male and female athletes to compete in Italy May 31-June 2nd for Fitness Universe. See facebook.com/teamarmedforceseurope for details about auditions and the team.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS
All ads and pics on class-world.com

The Knights of Columbus Timothy J. Maude Council 10292 will host a **FREE Pancake Breakfast** on 30 March 2014 at the ACS Cafeteria on Hainerberg from 1000 to 1400 hours. There will also be a Raffle with an Apple iPad-Mini Wi-Fi as the grand prize. The **FREE Pancake Breakfast** is open to everyone, so bring your appetite and come on out and have a good time!!!

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Camerabag Crumpler "Messenger bag" for digital mirror reflex camera and equipment. Only used once, original price EURO 100, €50 OBO, pics on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Metal Slug Anthology, Wii game, played once, perfect condition - like new!, €15, coemser@gmail.com

Operating system Windows XP Hard Drive 37GB. 017684658955

Rayman Raving Rabbits, Wii game, perfect condition, like new! €10, coemser@gmail.com, €10, coemser@gmail.com

SmackDown vs. Raw 2010, Wii game, like new!, €12, coemser@gmail.com

Super Mario Galaxy, Wii game, perfect condition, like new! €15, coemser@gmail.com, €20, coemser@gmail.com

The Bigs Baseball, Wii Game, perfect condition, like new!, €10, coemser@gmail.com

The Bigs2 Baseball, Wii game, perfect condition, like new!, €10, coemser@gmail.com

Zelda Twilight Princess, Wii game, perfect condition, like new!, €15, coemser@gmail.com

FOR SALE

All ads and pics on class-world.com

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220 volt iron and ironing board. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. \$30, eyates9761@aol.com

Baby Buggy, Baby Buggy in good condition, with additional baby carrier. \$50.00, spvendor@gmail.com

Engleby from Sebastian Faulks! Great book., €2, pic on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Large Gym bags, 2 large Gym bags \$10.00 each, spvendor@gmail.com

Bracelet - Brown, handmade! Beautiful accessory for any ocaation, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, coemser@gmail.com, pics on class-world.com

Bracelet - Gray/Black, handmade. Beautiful accessory for any ocaation, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, coemser@gmail.com, pics on class-world.com

Disney Palisade Playground Set, This is an awesome swing set that has travel with us for the last 4 years however we are not bring it with us this time. It is big but breaks down easily and we still have all the original hardware and directions. mezler2@netscape.net

For Sale: 1600VA Transformer (\$60); 1000VA Transformer (\$45); 2 x 300VA Transformers (\$30 ea); 2 x 75VA Transformers (\$15 ea); Mini-Fridge, 110V (\$65); Ice Cream Maker, never used, 110V (\$40); 2 x Holmes Large HEPA Air Cleaners, for large bedroom/living room, 110V (\$55 each). currierjh@hotmail.com

New Dark Side Licence Plate. spvendor@gmail.com

Handbag "clutch style": Love to go out and dont want to use a big handbag? Dont miss out on this small, black bag. Perfect for going out at night!, €8, pics on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Jacket "Stones", perfect for men to wear in fall, 100% cotton, perfect condition, size 54 (german), €40, pics on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

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Sweatshirt from GAP, perfect condition, like new. Size small., €7, pics on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

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“Rhythmic gymnastics allows me to express myself”

Rebecca Sereda, USA Rhythmic Gymnastics National Team

Advertisement

From March 21-23 the GAZPROM World Cup Rhythmic Gymnastics will take place in Stuttgart. The Citizen talked with Rebecca Sereda from the participating US-Team about her love of rhythmic gymnastics, the relationship with Germany and the possible support of Americans in the Porsche-Arena.

How did you get into rhythmic gymnastics?

Sereda: I started gymnastics when I was six years old. My mother saw an advertisement in the newspaper for Isadora Rhythmic Gymnastics.

What does rhythmic gymnastics mean to you?

Sereda: Rhythmic gymnastics is a way of life for me. It is not only a sport I love, but it gave me lasting friendships and an amazing coach. Rhythmic gymnastics allows me to express myself through my choreography. It's a sport where I can demonstrate grace as well as show the difficulty and athleticism of the sport.

Can you briefly explain the rules, the competitions and the fundamentals of the sport?

Sereda: Rhythmic gymnastics is made up of four routines with the apparatuses

of hoop, ball, clubs and ribbon. Each routine is scored out of 20 points. Ten points are awarded for the difficulty of your routine which include your body elements, your masteries (interesting apparatus elements), and dancing steps. The other ten points are for how you execute and perform your routine artistically.

How does a normal training week look like for you and your team?

Sereda: A normal training week consists of practice six times a week totaling over 30 hours of training a week. We come to the gym to do ballet, conditioning, tosses and to practice our routines.

From 21st till 23rd of March the GAZPROM World Cup Rhythmic Gymnastics will take place in Stuttgart. What do you want to achieve there?

Sereda: The GAZPROM World Cup in Stuttgart will serve as my first international competition since World Championships. It will be the first time I will show my new program to the world. I hope to perform consistent routines and show that I have improved since last year. As for placing, it will depend on how well I perform my routines.

Who do you think are the favorites?

Sereda: The favorites in Stuttgart are

definitely the Russians and of course the Germans. There may be some new gymnasts that may come as a surprise, most importantly Team USA.

Did you know that a lot of U. S. Army military communities exist in Stuttgart and in the south of Germany? Have you ever been there before?

Sereda: I have never been to Stuttgart before. I was not aware that U.S Army military communities existed in Stuttgart but I was aware there were some military communities in Germany.

Your focus in Stuttgart will be on sports. Do you have the possibility or desire to visit some point of interests or even a military community?

Sereda: Although my main focus in Stuttgart will be on the competition, I hope I will get to see some major highlights of the city. I love traveling to new places and learning about each city's history. I would love to see a military community to find out how the U.S Army lives.

Do you have any connections to the U. S. Army?

Sereda: Being the first born American in my family I do not have close relationships with the U.S Army. However, I am always interested in knowing about

the whereabouts of our soldiers. I highly respect all the soldiers fighting for our country.

The German-based U.S. community could be a great support in the Porsche-Arena. Would that be an advantage for your US-team?

Sereda: Having the U.S community come support us at the Porsche Arena would be fantastic. Since we are competing so far away from home it will be nice to have fellow supporters. I love competing in front of a large crowd especially if there are Americans supporting their home country.

In fall 2015 the World Championships of rhythmic gymnastics will be held in the same place. What do you want to achieve at the world championships?

Sereda: The autumn of 2015 is a very important time for all the rhythmic gymnasts hoping to qualify for the Olympic Games. I hope to still be competing for our country and hopefully achieving a spot for the United States in the Olympics. By 2015 I hope to improve my standings and prove to the world I am capable to represent The United States of America.

FOR SALE

All ads and pics on class-world.com

Shamballa Bracelet - Lilac/white, handmade, adjustable in size, fits almost every wrist. Beautiful accessory for any occasion, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, coemser@gmail.com

Shamballa Bracelet - Purple/white, handmade, adjustable in size, fits almost every wrist. Beautiful accessory for any occasion, any outfit. Treat yourself to something nice or bring a smile to your best girl friends. €10, coemser@gmail.com

The Notebook from Nicholas Sparks - wonderful book!, €3, pic on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Tommy Hilfiger Jacket for men, great condition, 100% cotton, size 54, €50, pics on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Transformers, Multiple 220 volt transformers. 4 X 300 watt for \$40 each and 1 X 75 watt for \$20. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. \$40, eyates9761@aol.com

T-Shirt "America", perfect condition, like new, size small!, €8, pics on class-world.com, coemser@gmail.com

Two brand new bikes in mint condition, 500 euro. Helmet, light, bell, rain cover, chain and lock, back carrying clasp, & detachable front basket included. krgreen@hotmail.com

FURNITURE

All ads and pics on class-world.com

2 Dark brown shelves, 2 dark brown shelves in very good condition. 130x120x36cm. Call Gary @ 01713610739, \$20, aussiebeagle11@googlemail.com

3 Dark Brown shelves, 3 dark brown shelves in very good condition. 194x120x36cm. Call Gary @ 01713610739, \$50, aussiebeagle11@googlemail.com

Antique 100 y.o. German china cabinet, matching dining table with 4 chairs. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €950, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique Bench, Antique bench with cushion seat, storage space and wheels. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €600, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique corner desk. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €150, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique French armoire with mirror doors. Louis IV style. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €800, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique French buffet. year 1890 Henry II style. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €1000, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique French sofa. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €200, eyates9761@aol.com

Antique secretary desk. See photos on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €120, eyates9761@aol.com

Bev Doolittle "Two More Indian Horses" framed limited edition print set with certificate of authenticity (3 prints). Print # 13,348/48,000. Selling for \$550 (retails between \$650-\$875). Contact Matt at matthewshedd@hotmail.com

Couch With Recamiere, 2 & 1/2 seats Couch with recamiere with storage space under recamiere. size 2.35cm X 0.53cm, recamiere 1.60cm X 0.80cm, color: terracotta., €500, earnest.epps@t-online.de Tel. Cell 01737406216

Mantel Clock, Mantel clock from the 60 era. Key wind chimes on the half and full hour. \$70.00 spvendor@gmail.com

Don Stivers "The Quiet Professional" framed limited edition print with certificate of authenticity. Print# 341/1000. Selling for \$895 (retails between \$1,500-\$2,000). Contact Matt at matthewshedd@hotmail.com.

Inlaid Wooden End Table. Sorrento style. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. €30, eyates9761@aol.com

Outdoor 3 seat swing, metal frame with cushions, Moving sale! Outdoor 3 seat swing, metal frame with cushions in excellent condition. Swing can hold up to 400Lbs. 190x170cm. Call Gary @ 01713610739, \$100, aussiebeagle11@googlemail.com

Queen Size 4 Poster Solid Wood Bed With Australian Silk Canopy, Moving Sale! Queen size 4 poster solid wood bed with Australian Silk Canopy in excellent condition. 2 years old. Call Gary @ 01713610739, \$400, aussiebeagle11@googlemail.com

Wooden bookshelf. See photo on KA classifieds web page. Contact Eric and Mia at 063759949674. \$150, eyates9761@aol.com

JOBS

All ads and pics on class-world.com

MITRE is hiring an Administrative Professional in Stuttgart. <http://www.mitre.org/careers/job-openings> Contact: Drew Miller akmler@mitre.org, +1 719 201 4052

PETS

All ads and pics on class-world.com

There have been reports of pets being sold from breeding facilities that are not managed at the highest professional standards. Please choose your pet carefully. Make sure you check the credentials of the people selling the pet, and get proper paperwork showing shots and/or other proof of healthy condition. For further advice, consult your Veterinarian.

Beautiful-Sweet-Gentle-Sound-Safe South German Cold Blood (Bavarian Oberlander) Horse Team. Both Horses Drive a carriage & can be ridden. Mare-10 y/o & Gelding-15 y/o. Both come with Pferdepass. Please call Ruth at 01609-559-4445. More Info. & photos at: www.class-world.com

English Bulldog, 2 males in rare black color heavy bones best bloodlines purebred dewormed shots all complete ready to pick up birth date 21.12.2013, bullies2011@t-online.de

Excellent Starter Pet, Reverse Okeetee Albino Corn Snake - 1 y/o. Healthy & PERFECT pet! Super Easy to care for! Includes complete tank set. VERY Friendly - Does NOT bite! Contact Ruth @ 01609-559-4445. Photos on www.class-world.com

Pair of Pretty Budgies (male & female) are looking for a home. Male is hand tame. Pair comes with XL cage & includes nesting box, bath, toys, food & more. Contact Ruth @ 01609-559-4445 if you would like to make them a part of your family. Photos are on www.class-world.com

Super Cuddly Bunny, Perfect pet, easy care & super friendly male Lion Head Bunny. This 1 y/o was a rescue & is looking for a permanent home. Cage, pet items & food included. He loves to be held and cuddled! Call Ruth: 01609-559-4445 to make him part of your family.



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